

RICHARD J. DURBIN
ILLINOIS

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE ON RULES
AND ADMINISTRATION

ASSISTANT MAJORITY
LEADER

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510-1304

April 9, 2010

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The Honorable Daniel Inouye
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-128 The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thad Cochran
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
S-146A The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Barbara Mikulski
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science and Related Agencies
Senate Appropriations Committee
142 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Richard Shelby
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice,
Science and Related Agencies
Senate Appropriations Committee
125 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairmen Inouye and Mikulski and Senators Cochran and Shelby:

As you begin work on the Fiscal Year 2011 (FY11) appropriations bill for Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies, I would like to share my Illinois priorities. I thank you for your past assistance and look forward to working with you on these important projects.

Department of Justice

- **Academy for Urban School Leadership, Chicago.** \$450,000 to provide a youth-focused violence prevention and job development program in the North Lawndale and Austin communities of Chicago. AUSL and Uhlich Children's Advantage Network (UCAN) collaborate to reach and work with youth who have grown up surrounded by violence in communities, homes and schools.
- **Casa Central, Chicago.** \$350,000 for the expansion of after school programs for at-risk youth in Chicago Lawn, West Lawn, Gage Park, West Elsdon and other areas lacking bicultural and bilingual programming for the growing Hispanic populations. These programs address youth violence, youth gangs and gang violence.
- **Ceasefire at the University of Illinois, Chicago.** \$500,000 for the Chicago Project for Violence Prevention to expand Ceasefire, an accelerated community-based prevention, intervention, treatment and advocacy initiative.

- **Christian Activity Center, East St. Louis.** \$250,000 to allow the Christian Activity Center to expand after school programs for at-risk youth, including tutoring and recreation programming, which provide an alternative to the violence, drugs, and gang activity in the surrounding community.
- **City of Peoria.** \$100,000 to allow the City to continue the Drug Market Intervention program, which combats drug-related crime in neighborhoods by targeting hardened criminals for prosecution but offers lesser offenders an opportunity to reform through a combination of community service and employment and education assistance.
- **City of Waukegan.** \$450,000 to allow the Waukegan Police to continue gang suppression activities, with the goal of reducing the number of illegal firearms, shooting investigations and drug activity. The Police Department partners with public schools and non-profit organizations to create a comprehensive approach to gang suppression.
- **DuPage County.** \$150,000 to allow the DuPage County Probation Office to offer employment counseling and job placement services to adult offenders on probation. In collaboration with a non-profit, this program will help ease the reentry process by working with individuals on probation to find local employment.
- **Lawrence Hall Youth Services.** \$450,000 to support the Youth Violence Prevention Program, which aims to change behaviors of high-risk youth, particularly African-American males living in violent or economically disadvantaged communities who have a history of violence, gang involvement and other issues that require special education and behavior modification services.
- **McLean County.** \$250,000 to create a Mental Health Court to appropriately address the needs of mentally ill individuals in the judicial system. The establishment of such a court will allow the judicial system to adjudicate individuals with mental health issues who need prosecution and direct those needing service to the community's mental health service providers.
- **Southern Illinois University.** \$250,000 to support the Veterans Legal Assistance Program (VLAP) at the Southern Illinois University School of Law. The purpose of VLAP is to provide pro-bono legal assistance to Illinois veterans in the disability claims process, provide opportunities to law students interested in pro-bono or public service work and train and provide assistance to local attorneys seeking pro-bono opportunities within the community.
- **Our Children's Homestead, Rockford.** \$200,000 to provide tutoring and assistance for at-risk youth within the foster system to pursue postsecondary education and methods to find employment. This program includes necessary crisis intervention and therapy groups to address anger management and domestic violence issues.

- **Sheriff's Office of Cook County.** \$350,000 to allow the Sheriff's Office to expand their Reentry to Green Jobs Initiative at the Cook County Jail. Designed as a recidivism program, this initiative combines an inmate-run greenhouse and a virtual high school to help inmates gain job training while earning a high school diploma.
- **Will County, Illinois.** \$300,000 for the procurement and installation of 65 in-car cameras in patrol cruisers, which will increase the safety and effectiveness of the members of the Will County Sheriff's Department. This will result in a fully equipped fleet that will make the streets and residents of the County safer.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has a pecuniary interest in any of the congressionally directed spending item(s) that I have requested, consistent with the requirements of paragraph 9 of Rule XLIV of the Standing Rules of the Senate. I further certify that I have posted a description of the items requested on my official website, along with the accompanying justification.

I thank you in advance for your assistance with these important projects. If I can provide additional information or assist you in any way, please contact me or my staff at 4-2152.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Rich. Durbin", written over a horizontal line.

Richard J. Durbin
United States Senator